

PATENT APPLICATION
Docket No: 14321.67

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of)
Nobuhiro Nunoya et al.)
Serial No.: 10/527,355) Art Unit
Filed: March 7, 2005) 2828
Confirmation No.: 4938)
For: OPTICAL SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND OPTICAL)
SEMICONDUCTOR INTEGRATED CIRCUIT)
Examiner: Patrick Stafford)

FOURTH SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Please find, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(1), the enclosed Form PTO-1449 which contains a list of all patents, publications, or other items that have come to the attention of one or more of the individuals designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c). While no representation is made that these references may be "prior art" within the meaning of that term under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 or 103, the enclosed listed references are disclosed so as to fully comply with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

Moreover, while no representation is made that a specific search of office files or patent office records has been conducted or that no better art exists, the undersigned attorney of record believes that the enclosed art is the closest to the claimed invention (taken in its entirety) of which the undersigned is presently aware, and no art which is closer to the claimed invention (taken in its entirety) has been knowingly withheld.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, a copy of each of the listed references or relevant portion thereof that is not a US patent document is also enclosed.

Statement of Relevance of References Listed
Unaccompanied by English Translation
Under 37 CFR § 1.98(a)(3)

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.98(a)(3), the following concise explanation of the relevance of each listed reference that is not in the English language and unaccompanied by a translation into English is provided.

German Patent No. DE 31 31 232 A1: According to the European Patent Office, this application was also published as U.S. Patent No. 4,405,236. There is no English translation available for the German patent; however, the U.S. Patent referenced above has the same drawings as the German Patent.

Non-Prior Art Documents

Enclosed for the examiner's consideration are copies of European Search Reports issued in the following cases which generally correspond to the present application:

European Patent Application No. 07107222.7 having a mailing date of September 17, 2007;
European Patent Application No. 07107222.1 having a mailing date of September 28, 2007.

Related Cases

This is to inform the Examiner that the following applications are related in content to the above-identified patent application:

1. Application Serial No. 11/755,654, filed May 30, 2007
2. Application Serial No. 11/755,688, filed May 30, 2007

Dated this 29th day of October 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

/Scott A. Woodbury/ Reg. #55743
SCOTT A. WOODBURY

Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 37,246
Customer No. 022913
Telephone No. 801.533.9800

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